

**COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR PATENT APPLICATION**

As a below-named inventor, we hereby declare that:

Our residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to our names.

We believe we are the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: **CRATE FOR CONTAINERS** the specification of which:

☒ is attached hereto.  
 — was filed on \_\_\_\_\_ as Application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 and was amended on \_\_\_\_\_  
 (if applicable)

We hereby state that we have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

We acknowledge the duty to disclose to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office all information which is material to patentability (as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56) in connection with the examination of this application.

We hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, Section 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the matter provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, Section 112, we acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

10/458149	June 10, 2003	Pending
_____ (Application Serial No.)	_____ (Filing Date)	_____ (Status) (patented, pending, abandoned)

We hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America listed below and have also identified below any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date before that of the application(s) of which priority is claimed.

_____ Country	_____ Application No.	_____ Date of Filing	_____ Priority Claimed
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We hereby appoint Henry H. Gibson, Reg. No. 28,951, Hanh T. Pham, Reg. No. 40,771, Robert E. Walter, Reg. No. 25,245; Kenneth S. Wheelock, Reg. No. 36,340, John B. Yates, Reg. No. 39,433, and Frank A. Smith, Reg. No. 39,375, all of General Electric Company, One Plastics Avenue, Pittsfield, MA 01201, Ronald E. Myrick, Reg. No. 26,315, Jay Chaskin, Reg. No. 24,030, James W. Mitchell, Reg. No. 25,602, Henry J. Policinski, Reg. No. 26,621, Bernard Snyder, Reg. No. 24,843, Scott R. Hayden, Reg. No. 41,821, Michael M. Gribus, Reg. No. 38,162 and Catherine J. Winter, Reg. No. 38,364 of General Electric Company, (W3E) 3135 Easton Turnpike, Fairfield, CT 06828, of General Electric Company, (W3D) 3135 Easton Turnpike, Fairfield, CT 06431-0001, Marina T. Larson, Ph.D., Reg. No. 32038, of Oppedahl & Larson LLP, Post Office Box 5088, Dillon, Colorado 80435-5088 jointly and each of them severally, my attorneys or agents and attorney or agent, with full power of substitution, delegation and revocation, to prosecute this application, to make alterations and amendments therein, to receive the patent and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith. We hereby direct that all correspondence and telephone calls in connection with this application be addressed to the said:

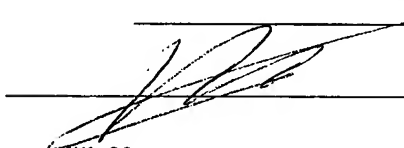
**Robert E. Walter at General Electric Company, One Plastics Avenue, Pittsfield, MA, 01201**  
**Telephone No.: (413) 448-5459**

We hereby declare that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that all such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of **first** inventor

**RONALD VAN DER WAL**

Inventor's signature



06-08-03

Date

Residence

Westhavendijk 92

4651 VZ Steenbergen, The Netherlands

Citizenship

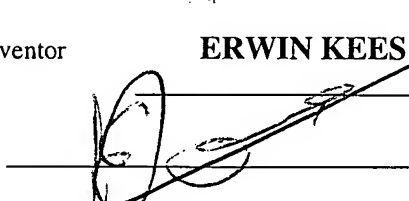
NL

Post Office Address

Full name of **second** inventor

**ERWIN KEES JACOBA MARIA ROOVERS**

Inventor's signature



11-08-2003

Date

Residence

Schorrenkruid 61

4671 JH Bergen op Zoom, The Netherlands

Citizenship

NL

Post Office Address

Full name of **third** inventor

**M.A. (MARINUS ANTHONIUS) ROS**

Inventor's signature

*M.A. Ros*

*6 aug 2003*  
Date

Residence

Havik 74  
4872 WG Etten-Leur, The Netherlands

Citizenship

NL

Post Office Address

Full name of **fourth** inventor

**GABRIE HOOGLAND**

Inventor's signature

Residence

Yzand 34  
4823 HP Breda, The Netherlands

Date

Citizenship

NL

Post Office Address

Full name of third inventor

**M.A. (MARINUS ANTHONIUS) ROS**

Inventor's signature

Residence

Havik 74  
4872 WG Etten-Leur, The Netherlands

Date

Citizenship

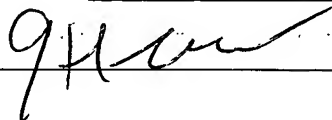
NL

Post Office Address

Full name of fourth inventor

**GABRIE HOOGLAND**

Inventor's signature



August 5, 2003

Date

Residence

tZand 34  
4823 HP Breda, The Netherlands

Citizenship

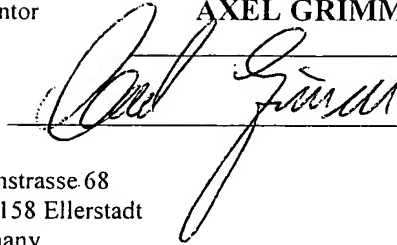
NL

Post Office Address

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**

Full name of fifth inventor **AXEL GRIMM**

Inventor's signature



*Aug 11, 2003*  
Date

Residence Bruchstrasse 68  
D-67158 Ellerstadt  
Germany

Citizenship DE

Post Office Address

REW/jar